



## Democratic Services

**Location:** Phase II  
**Ext:** 0692  
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**CMD No:** 781

**To: COUNCILLOR MARTIN GODDARD  
CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE**

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE LAVERY  
CABINET MEMBER FOR RESIDENTS' SERVICES**

c.c. All Members of the Residents' Services Select Committee  
c.c. Jamie Bell – Place Directorate  
c.c. Perry Scott – Corporate Director of Place  
c.c. Ward Councillors for Uxbridge

**Date:** 21 April 2023

## Non-Key Decision request

## Form D

### CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT

**DEPARTMENT:** Place

**SERVICE AREA/ PROGRAMME:** Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 – Refurbishment of the Children's Playground at Fassnidge Park.

**RELEASE NO:** 1

Dear Cabinet Member

Attached is a report requesting that a decision be made by you as an individual Cabinet Member. Democratic Services confirm that this is not a key decision, as such, the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 notice period does not apply.

You should take a decision **on or after Tuesday 02 May 2023** in order to meet Constitutional requirements about publication of decisions that are to be made. You may wish to discuss the report with the Corporate Director before it is made. Please indicate your decision on the duplicate memo supplied, and return it to me when you have made your decision. I will then arrange for the formal notice of decision to be published.

Ryan Dell  
Democratic Services Officer

**Title of Report:** Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme 2022/23 – 2026/27 – Refurbishment of the Children's Playground at Fassnidge Park. RELEASE NO: 1

**Decision made:**

**Reasons for your decision:** (e.g. as stated in report)

**Alternatives considered and rejected:** (e.g. as stated in report)

Signed ..... Date.....

*Cabinet Member for Finance / Cabinet Member for Residents' Services*

# CAPITAL RELEASE REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Place

SERVICE AREA/ PROGRAMME: Green Spaces – Playground Replacement Programme  
2022/23 – 2026/27 – Refurbishment of the Children’s Playground at Fassnidge Park.

RELEASE NO: 1

<b>Cabinet Members</b>	Councillor Martin Goddard Councillor Eddie Lavery
<b>Cabinet Portfolios</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance Cabinet Member for Residents’ Services
<b>Officer Contact</b>	Jamie Bell – Place Directorate
<b>Papers with report</b>	Appendix A with capital release requests for approval Appendix B with details of playground equipment

## HEADLINES

<b>Summary</b>	To seek Cabinet Member approval for the release of capital funds for the refurbishment of Fassnidge Park Children’s Playground.
<b>Putting our Residents First</b>  <b>Delivering on the Council Strategy 2022-2026</b>	This report supports our ambition for residents/ the Council of: Enjoy access to green spaces, leisure activities, culture and arts  This report supports our commitments to residents of: A Green and Sustainable Borough
<b>Financial Cost</b>	This report seeks the release of £125k from the Playground Replacement Programme 2023/24 capital budget for the refurbishment of the children’s playground at Fassnidge Park. The works will commence upon release of the funds and are due for completion by July 2023
<b>Relevant Select Committee</b>	Residents’ Services Select Committee.
<b>Ward affected</b>	Uxbridge.

## RECOMMENDATION

**That the Cabinet Member for Finance and the Cabinet Member for Residents' Services agree to the following capital release requests of £125k from the Playground Replacement 2023/24 Programme capital budget for the refurbishment of the children's playground at Fassnidge Park (Appendix A).**

### Reasons for recommendation

The refurbishment of this playground is necessary due to it now reaching the end of its economic life. This has been identified by the safety inspections undertaken by RoSPA qualified Inspectors and engineers from our insurance company Zurich. This approach is supported by local residents and families using the site, this is evidenced through complaints and enquiries relating to its current condition.

This funding release is part of the Council's Playground refurbishment programme approved by Cabinet in November 2022 with a contract award to Kompan Ltd for the provision of the design, replacement and installation of playground equipment over a four-year period. The programme approved by Cabinet included this site.

### Alternative options considered

The Cabinet Members could decide not to accept the recommendations. This would mean that the replacement of this playground would not be undertaken, risking a decline in visitor numbers to this busy Town Centre destination park, and resulting in claims against the Council due to non-compliant equipment.

### Select Committee comments

None at this stage.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The report is seeking the release of funds to refurbish the children's playground. This work will be carried out by the Council's approved contracted supplier, Kompan, who were recently awarded the tender for playground refurbishments across all Parks and Housing Playgrounds within the Borough.

Table 1: Cost Plan for the refurbishment of Fassnidge Park Playground

<b><i>Project / Programme Cost plan</i></b>	<b><i>Amount £</i></b>
<i>Construction Works</i>	<i>114,000</i>
<i>Internal fees 10%</i>	<i>11,000</i>
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>125,000</i></b>

### Financial Implications

**Budget £390k, Previously Released £NIL, Capital Release Requested £125k (Appendix A)**

The 2023/24 Capital Programme approved by Cabinet and Council in February 2023 includes a capital budget for the Playground Replacement Programme of £390k.

This report is seeking the release of £125k for the refurbishment of the children's playground at Fassnidge Park. The release request is based on the estimated costs contained within the Council's approved term contractor for the provision of the design, replacement and installation of playground equipment for the London Borough of Hillingdon.

The remaining £265k for the Playground Replacement Programme will be subject to the capital release procedure.

## **RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION**

### **The benefit or impact upon residents, service users and communities**

The Council and its partners are committed to making the Borough a cleaner, greener and safer environment. The recommendation within this report will ensure that the refurbishment of this playground can progress to create a safer and fun play experience for local children as well as a meeting/ social space for parents and carers of young children to enjoy.

### **Consultation carried out or required**

None.

## **CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Corporate Finance**

Corporate Finance has reviewed the report and concurs with the financial implication set out above, noting that the recommended action to agree a release of £125k for the refurbishment of the children's playground at Fassnidge Park will be funded from the approved 2023/24 Playground Replacement Programme capital budget.

### **Legal**

Legal Services confirm that the Council is responsible for carrying out this function pursuant to Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Thus, there are no legal impediments to the capital release being authorised, although any contract that is entered into must comply with the Council's Procurement and Contract Standing Orders.

### **Infrastructure/ Asset Management**

There are no Infrastructure/ Asset Management implications arising from this report.

### **Capital Release Protocol**

The release of all capital funds, and certain revenue funds, held by the Council is to be made by a formal democratic decision. No expenditure can be placed or committed by officers until this formal approval is given by Democratic Services. Release of funds must be for identified projects only and strictly not for the general release of funds for projects to be identified at a later date. No block releases of capital or funding will be allowed, except if authorised by the Leader of the

Council in advance to Corporate Finance. The release of funds will only be made if previous Council, Cabinet or Cabinet Member agreement has been given to the project and only if there is an approved budget.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NIL.

## APPENDIX A

### Playground Replacement Programme 2023/24: Refurbishment of the Children's Playground at Fassnidge Park - Release No 1

Location	Project / Expenditure Title	Information	Funds Release Sought £000's	Approve	Hold	More Information Required
Fassnidge Park	Children's Playground – Fassnidge Park	Construction of a new children's playground at Cranford Park.	125			
<b>Total seeking release</b>			<b>125</b>			
<b>Previously released</b>			<b>0</b>			
<b>Budget</b>			<b>390</b>			
<b>Remaining budget</b>			<b>265</b>			



## APPENDIX B

### Playground Design

